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STONE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TOGETHER WITH THE REPORT OF THE

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1959

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STONE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To the Chairman and Members of the Stone Urban District Council.

Madam Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

As instructed by the Minister of Health, I herewith present my Annual Report for 1959. In compiling it I have followed the pattern of last year as it enables the comparison with the figures for the preceeding year to be made much more easily.

The following are some of the facts from the main body of the Report.

(i) The population of the area has decreased by 30 from 8,800 to 8,770 (8,820 in 1957).

(ii) The total number of deaths from all causes has increased from 113 to 129 (146 in 1957).

(iii) The number of deaths from Malignant Neoplasm of Lung and Bronchus has remained stationery from 1958 - namely 3 (1957 - 3 and 1956 - 3).

(iv) The number of deaths from Coronary Disease and Angina has increased to 19 (13 in 1958, 13 in 1957, 18 in 1956).

Included in the statistics for this year is the figure relating to the number of children in the area who died under one week of age.

The number of deaths due to motor vehicle accidents occurring during the year was one. Previous figures were as follows -

1956 - 2; 1957 - 2; 1958 - 4.

I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, the Clerk of the Council, the Members of the Staff of the Public Health Department and the Health Visitor for the help and co-operation which I received from them during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

F.J. MURRAY

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS FOR THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health

F.J. Murray D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

C. Arthur M.B., B.CH.

Senior Public Health Inspector (Also Engineer and Surveyor)

A. Ainley
F.F.S., M.R.S.H., Dip.R.I.PH.H., C.S.I.B.
Certified Meat & Food Inspector

Additional Public Health Inspector

W.A. Stocker
Cert. S.I.B. Cert. Meat & Food Inspector

Clerks

Mrs. P. Platt
Miss S.J. Costello

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area (In Acres)	1,951
Population (General Registrar)	8,770
Number of inhabited houses and flats	2,891
Population density per house	3.03
Rateable Value	£99,323
Sum represented by a penny rate.....	£387

INDUSTRIES

Boots and Shoes
Brewing
Scientific and Industrial Glassware
Farms
Electrical Insulators
Tiles
Rubber Mouldings
Light Industries

NOTES ON STATISTICS

Population.

The population for the area for the year 1959 amounted to 8,770 which was a decrease of 30 persons (1958 - 8,800).

Births.

The total number of live births in the area amounted to 113 which was an decrease of 5 for the previous year. This gives a live birth rate of 12.8 per 1,000 population - England and Wales 16.5.

Deaths.

Deaths from all causes (including inward transferable deaths) amounted to 129. This is an increase of 16 on the same figure for 1958 and gives a death rate for the area of 14.7. The figure for England and Wales being 11.6. An analysis of causes of death is given on page 5.

One death occurred in infants under one year during 1959. This gives a death rate in this category for the year of 8.8 - England and Wales 22.2.

The number of Stone inhabitants who died during the year amounted to 92. This gives a death rate of 10.4 per 1,000 population - adjusted 8.3.

National Assistance Act.

No action was taken under this Act during the year.

Food Poisoning.

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year. No cases were notified during the preceeding year (1958), which shows that the standard of clean food in the area was maintained (3 cases notified in 1957).

Notifiable and Infectious Diseases.

The number of cases notified under this heading during the year amounted to 229 (6 in 1958). The difference in these figures is mainly due to the fact that 224 cases of Measles occurred in the area in 1959 against 3 cases in 1958 (33 cases notified in 1957). Table IV gives the complete list of infectious and notifiable diseases (excluding Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis) for the year 1959.

Vital Statistics.

These figures give particulars of the births and deaths rates for the area during 1959 and a comparison with the rates for England and Wales.

	Live Births.		Still Births.		Deaths of infants under 1 yr.		Deaths of infants under 4 weeks		Deaths of infants under 1 week.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Legitimate.	56	53	1	1	1	-	1	-	1	-
Illegitimate.	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total.	59	54	1	1	1	-	1	-	1	-

Maternal Mortality.

No cases of maternal mortality, either due to abortion or from other causes, occurred in the Urban District during the year.

Birth and Death Rate.

Comparability Factors. Births 0.98 Deaths 0.80

	Stone U.D.	Eng.& Wales.
Live Births per 1,000 population	12.8	16.5
Live Births per 1,000 population adjusted	12.5	-
Still Births per 1,000 Live and Still Births	17.3	21.0
Corrected death rate per 1,000 population	14.7	11.6
Corrected death rate per 1,000 population adjusted	11.7	-
Death rate, infants under 1 year per 1,000 Live Births	8.8	22.2
Death rate, infants under 4 weeks per 1,000 Live Births	8.8	15.8
Death rate, infants under 1 week per 1,000 Live Births	8.8	34.2

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATHS

		Male.	Female.	Total.
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	-	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8.	Measles	-	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	3	3
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	1	3
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	3	3
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	3	7	10
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-	1
16.	Diabetes	-	-	-
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	10	18	28
18.	Coronary disease, angina	12	7	19
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	2	-	2
20.	Other heart disease	12	16	28
21.	Other circulatory disease	1	4	5
22.	Influenza	-	-	-
23.	Pneumonia	-	1	1
24.	Bronchitis	9	1	10
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	-	1	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	-	-	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	4	8
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
34.	All other accidents	2	-	2
35.	Suicide	2	-	2
36.	Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
	Totals.	63	66	129

INFECTIOUS AND NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

The following table shows the number of infectious and notifiable diseases sent in by Medical Practitioners during the year 1959.

DISEASE	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total 1959	Total 1958
Scarlet Fever	2	1	-	1	4	1
Whooping Cough	-	-	1	-	1	-
Measles	79	131	14	-	224	3
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia, Acute Primary	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis, Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	1
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	1
Opthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
On Register at 31.12.58.	21	13	-	-
New cases notified or transferred in during 1959	1	1	-	-
Deaths during 1959	-	-	-	-
Removed from Register on transfer out or recovery during 1959	4	-	-	-
Total remaining on register at 31.12.59.	18	14	-	-

REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR ON THE SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

RECORD OF INSPECTIONS

The following table summarises the inspections made during the year for all purposes :-

	No. of inspections.	Notices Informal
Drainage	110	18
Water Supply	6	-
Refuse Collection and Disposal	17	10
Improvement Grants.	82	-
Dwelling Houses - Repairs	144	24
" " - Demolition	61	8
" " Slum Clearance	234	-
Housing Applications and Overcrowding	189	-
Tents, Vans, Sheds	33	-
Canal Boats	1	-
Infectious Diseases	10	-
Verminous and Dirty Premises	9	-
Insect Control	8	-
Rodent "	3	-
Keeping of Animals	14	1
Pet Animals Act	1	-
Factories	62	3
Workplaces	9	-
Outworkers	-	-
Means of Escape (Factories)	3	-
Petroleum Storage	65	8
Smoke Abatement	8	1
Schools	3	-
Shops (Health Provisions)	22	5
Private Slaughterhouses - meat inspection	380	3
Butchers Shops	4	-
Ice Cream Premises	19	-
Dairies, Bakehouses	21	2
Cafes, Canteens	18	2
Food Poisoning	2	-
Foodshops and Licensed Premises	202	12
Rent Act 1957	11	-
Miscellaneous	94	18
	1,845	115

1. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

Samples of the effluent discharged from the Sewage Disposal Works have been taken by the County Health Department and the Trent River Board on a monthly basis and all have complied with the standard suggested by the Royal Commission.

Details of soil and storm sewage 1956-59:-

Year	Soil sewage treated at Disposal Works Gallons	Storm water treated at Pumping Station Gallons	Total Gallons	Rainfall
1956	155,283,000	9,788,360	165,071,360	26.98
1957	199,933,000	11,602,760	211,535,760	29.99
1958	185,894,000	13,476,146	199,370,146	38.03
1959	175,032,000	8,791,200	183,823,200	22.45

During 1959 there were 196 rainless days.

2. Drainage.

The detailed supervision of all drainage works has been continued in connection with repairs and improvements to existing system and also of new work.

3. Pail Closets and Septic Tanks.

There are now 10 houses with pail closets and 23 houses with septic tanks in the area. The pail closet emptying service was maintained.

4. Water Supply.

The Staffordshire Potteries Water Board provide the water supply for the town. The excellent bacteriological quality has been maintained during the year. 12 samples taken by the Board were satisfactory in all respects.

6 visits were made to premises in connection with water supply.

New supplies during 1959:-

23 houses	-	Local Authority.
11 "	-	Private Enterprise.
2 bungalows	-	" "
Total 36 Dwellings		

5. Refuse Collection.

Two Karrier vehicles are operating full-time together with one vehicle part-time on waste paper collection.

The tipping sites at Abbey Street and Westbridge Park are completed except for small areas kept aside for emergency use. During the year a pit off the Uttoxeter Road in the Stone Rural District was filled to be reclaimed for agricultural use and tipping operations were about to commence in one of two pits at Cold Norton - also situated in the Stone Rural District.

Although this latter site will provide facilities for 2-3 years at the present rate of collection, the difficulty in finding long term tipping sites remains a formidable problem.

Sites outside the Urban area will add to the running and collection costs and it may be necessary to consider the provision of extra vehicles in future years to meet collection needs for such purposes. If this situation develops, difficulty will be experienced in recruiting suitable additional collection staff from available local labour.

Salvage.

The collection and disposal of waste paper, containers and rags has been maintained. Scrap iron and other metals are separated and salvaged but metal containers (cans) are not recovered.

Salvage Disposal

1st January to 31st December, 1959.

	T.	C.	Q.	£.	s.	d.
Waste Paper and Cardboard	89	19	2	544	14	6
Rags	2	6	2	34	17	6
Scrap Iron	4	5	2	21	7	6
	96	11	2	£ 600	19	6

HOUSING

6. 11 bungalows, 8 flats and 4 houses were completed during 1959 on the Council's Lichfield Road Estate.

During the year 12 housing units of new and existing dwelling accommodation were again provided for slum clearance purposes.

A new private estate has been laid out with building plots for 86 dwellings and building has continued on one private housing estate which will consist of 38 dwellings.

2 applications for Standard Improvement Grants and 6 applications for Discretionary Improvement Grants have been made during the year.

Number of houses erected during the year:-

(i)	By Local Authority	4 houses	11 bungalows	8 flats
(ii)	" other Local Authorities	Nil		
(iii)	" private enterprise	8 houses	3 bungalows	
	Total	12 houses	14 bungalows	8 flats

Number of houses owned by the Council on the 31st December, 1959, built under the provisions of the various Housing Acts:

Erected during the years 1919 - 1940	- 276	(and remaining in the Council's possession).
1947	- 10	
1948	- 72	
1949	- 56	
1950	- 20	
1951	- 6	
1952	- 28	
1953	- 86	
1954	- 54	
1955	- 36	
1956	- 71	+ 4 houses transferred
1957	- 35	
1958	- 25	
1959	- 23	
Total houses flats and bungalows	802	

7. Inspection and repair of dwelling houses.

During the year 28 informal notices were served for repairs in private houses. The majority of these notices were complied with and the work satisfactorily carried out.

Inspection.

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (Under Public Health and Housing Acts) 328

   (b) Number of inspections made for the above purpose 432

2. Number of houses in 1-5 years slum clearance programme 122

3. Properties demolished or closed in 1959 30

4. Remaining occupied in 1-5 years programme ... ... Nil

5. Number of houses remaining in the 5-20 years programme 227

Remedy of Defects.

Number of houses repaired, rendered fit or improved in consequence of formal action 1

Number of dwelling houses repaired, rendered fit or improved in consequence of informal action 24

Number of dwelling houses rendered fit or improved in consequence of voluntary action by owner 10

8. Demolition of dwelling houses.

The 1-5 years slum clearance programme was completed with the re-housing of the last few families from condemned houses. A substantial number of condemned houses were demolished during the year as shown below.

Consideration is being given to a further 15 year programme to cover the remainder of the sub-standard houses in the district.

Number of houses demolished as a result of formal action 30

Further statutory Demolition Orders served (property to be demolished in the following year)... ... ... Nil

Closing Orders made under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957 ... ... Nil

9. Overcrowding and rehousing.

Allocation of new units have been primarily made for slum clearance tenants and the remaining new units have been allocated under the points system. 19 Council houses became vacant during the year and these were re-allocated mainly under the points system.

10. Moveable Dwellings.

Two areas of land were again used without consent for the parking of caravans. The sites were eventually cleared by informal action.

Private canal cruising boats are hired out for holiday travel by a Stone Company. A fair number of pleasure craft now use the Trent and Mersey Canal during the summer.

11. Dirty and Verminous Premises.

Visits were made to 5 dirty houses and the necessary instructions and advice given to secure their cleansing.

12. Rodent Control.

Two treatments were carried out to the sewer system of the town. Regular treatment of the refuse tip and other surface installations has been carried out.

Details of treatments other than sewers are as shown in the following table:-

	Local Authority.	Dwelling Houses.	Agric-ultural.	All other purposes.
Rats.				
Major infestations	1	-	-	1
Minor "	12	129	-	20
Mice.				
Major infestations	-	2	-	2
Minor "	-	7	-	2

13. Pet Animals Act.

One shop licence was renewed for this purpose. No contraventions occurred.

14. Factories.

Number on Register	40
Number of inspections for all purposes	71

Considerable effort was made to visit all factories not already provided with a Certificate of Means of Escape in Case of Fire under Section 34 of the Factories Act. At the end of the year only one factory had not been supplied with a Certificate.

15. Smoke Abatement.

The general response and co-operation of industry within the Urban area has been good. One firm has commenced a conversion scheme from coal fired to gas fired kilns and so far three kilns have been converted.

One informal notice was abated.

Grit and ash emissions continued from time to time from the Meaford Power Station. Joint discussions by the Stone Rural and Stone Urban District Councils with the Central Electricity Generating Board have taken place and as a result it is understood that more efficient arresting equipment is to be installed.

16. Shops Act.

Regular visits to shops in the area have been maintained.

22 inspections of shops in respect of health and comfort provisions were made. A separate Shops Act Report has been submitted to the Council.

17. Inspection and Supervision of Food Premises.

Meat Inspection.

Regular meat inspection has been maintained in the three licensed slaughterhouses. All animals are inspected as soon as possible after slaughter.

The meat produced from the slaughterhouses is retailed in three private butchers' shops situated within the Urban area. Some meat is also supplied to the adjoining Rural District area.

The remaining butchers' shops receive their meat supplies from outside the district.

During the year some pigs' plucks bearing no evidence of inspection found their way into one butcher's shop from a bacon factory situated outside the area. The matter was taken up with the Authority concerned and the plucks were afterwards supplied with a certificate of fitness.

Meat and Offals found unfit: 1 Ton 9 Cwts 2 Qrs. 7Lbs.

Number of Animals slaughtered: 434 Cattle 13 Calves
2631 Sheep 621 Pigs

Cysticercus Bovis.

5 beef cattle were found to be infected with this parasite.

Tuberculosis.

Only 462 lbs. of offal was found to be infected with Tuberculosis.

All meat surrendered as unfit is coloured green and either forwarded for animal feeding products or destroyed at the refuse tip.

Details of carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part are shown in the following table.

PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSES

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	434	-	13	2631	621	-
Number inspected	434	-	13	2631	621	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	2	3	-
Carcases of which some organ or part was condemned.	239	-	-	123	21	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.	55.1%	-	-	4.7%	3.4%	-
Tuberculosis Only: Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some organ or part was condemned.	22	-	-	-	13	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	5.1%	-	-	-	2.1%	-
Cysticercus. Carcases of which some organ or part was condemned.	5	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	1	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-

18. Ice Cream.

Number of premises registered for sale of pre-packed ice cream at 31st December, 1959 24

Number of the above actually selling ice cream ... 19

Number of new registrations during the year 1

All premises in the district sell pre-packed ice cream. From time to time throughout the year samples were submitted for bacteriological examination. The results were as follows :-

Provisional	Grade 1	16 samples
"	" 2	Nil
"	" 3	"
"	" 4	"

These results are highly satisfactory as all samples were up to standard.

19. Milk.

During the year the County Authority have taken the following samples in this area :-

Samples for bacteriological examination - 65
" " biological test for Tuberculosis - 8

All the 8 samples tested for Tuberculosis proved negative and those submitted for bacteriological examination were satisfactory. 1 sample failed the Methylene Blue Test.

20. Inspection of Food Handling Premises.

Frequent routine visits have been made to all food premises, with particular regard to food hygiene. 12 notices were served to implement the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations and all work required was satisfactorily carried out. An advisary circular was sent out to traders in July regarding the storage and protection of meat and other cooked products during spells of hot weather. Many more shops have installed frozen food cabinets (display etc.).

21. Inspection of Food (excluding Meat at Slaughterhouses).

The following are the total amounts of food other than meat at slaughterhouses, voluntary surrender of which has been accepted:-

Imported Meat, Canned Meat and Meat Products ... 58 lbs.
Other Foods ... ... 203 lbs.